

SENATE BILL 1651  
By Williams

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, Chapter 4, to authorize the issuance of special license plates for members of the clergy.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-4-202(c)(3), is amended by adding a new item thereto, as follows:

( ) Members of the clergy;

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-4-203, is amended by adding a new item thereto, as follows:

( ) Members of the clergy -- twenty-five dollars (\$25.00);

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, Chapter 4, is amended by adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated section:

(a) Members of the clergy who are owners or lessees of motor vehicles and who are residents of Tennessee, upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles, and paying the regular fee applicable to motor vehicles and the fee provided for in Section 55-4-203, shall be issued a special license plate authorized by this section, either for an automobile, recreational vehicle or a truck of one-half (1/2) or three-quarter (3/4) ton rating.

(b) The special plates provided for in this section shall be issued in conformity with the provisions of Section 55-4-202, and shall be of an appropriate design to

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designate the eligible person as a member of the clergy without specifically representing any faith. The special plates shall include a unique identifying number, whereby the total characters do not exceed the sum of six (6); provided, that no two (2) recipients shall receive identical plates.

(c)

(1) The provisions of this section shall not be construed to mean that any eligible person shall be prevented from exchanging a regular type plate for one (1) of special design; provided, that the fees prescribed under Section 55-4-203 are paid.

(2) The whole or parts of the fee for a special registration plate shall not be refunded for the exchange of a regular plate.

(d) Additional special license plates may be obtained by any eligible person upon payment of the regular license fee for plates, as prescribed under Section 55-4-111, plus the payment of the fee prescribed in Section 55-4-203.

(e)

(1) Special plates issued pursuant to this section may be transferred to another vehicle of the same weight class owned or leased by the same person upon proper application being made therefor and approved by the department of safety.

(2) It is unlawful for any person to whom such plates have been issued to knowingly permit them to be displayed on any vehicle, except such as authorized by the department.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

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